

Message Text

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12

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 NEA-09 RSC-01

L-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00

SIL-01 SS-15 OIC-02 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 /099 W

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R 240400Z JAN 75

FM AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2565

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

CINCPAC

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

USUN NEW YORK 08

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L MELBOURNE 0095

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ILO, PLO, PFOR, AORG, ELAB, AS

SUBJECT: ILO - REQUEST FOR POSTPONEMENT OF CONSIDERATION OF PLO
OBSERVER

REF: (A) STATE 12808 & (B) CANBERRA 0527

1. PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF REFTEL A, LABATT HAD MADE APPOINTMENT
WITH HAWKE IN HIS CAPACITY AS PRESIDENT OF AUSTRALIAN LABOR
PARTY (ALP), TO DISCUSS UPCOMING ALP FEDERAL CONFERENCE.
HAWKE'S ANTIPATHY FOR PLO IS WELL KNOWN AND SUBJECT CAME UP IN
CONVERSATION WITHOUT ANY PRODDING FROM LABATT.

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WM HAWKE OF COURSE IS WELL AWARE OF PLO REQUEST FOR OBSERVER

STATUS AND VOLUNTEERED INFORMATION THAT BOTH HE AND EMPLOYER DELEGATE, GEORGE POLITES, HAD RAISED QUESTION BOTH WITH SECRETARY OF LABOR PETER WILENSKI AND MINISTER FOREIGN AFFAIRS, SENATOR DON WILLESEE. (THIS FACT WAS CONFIRMED IN TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH POLITES).

3. WHILE HAWKE WAS NOT AT 1974 ILO CONFERENCE HE HAS READ ALL RESOLUTIONS AND REPORTS AND HAD DISCUSSED MATTER OF PLO APPLICATION WITH GOA OFFICIALS IN ANTICIPATION OF GOVERNING BODY MEETING TO BE HELD IN FEBRUARY. HE REFERRED TO HIS ATTACK ON THE SOVIET UNION AT ILO IN 1973 ON A RELATED QUESTION INTRODUCED BY THE ARAB BLOC. HE GAVE LABATT HIS OPINION THAT IF PLO WAS ADMITTED IN ANY STATUS IT WOULD MAKE A SHAMBLES OF ILO AND FURTHER DOWNGRADE DETERIORATING IMAGE OF UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION ITSELF. HE ASKED LABATT IF LATTER KNEW WHAT AFL-CIO WAS NOW DOING ABOUT PLO APPLICATION AND WHAT THEY PLANNED TO DO IN EVENT THAT PLO APPLICATION WAS SUCCESSFUL. HE ASKED THAT LABATT SOMEHOW COMMUNICATE IDEA TO AFL-CIO THAT HE WOULD LIKE BEING CONTACTED QUICKLY AND DIRECTLY ON QUESTION AS HE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED AFL-CIO POSITION ON WHOLE QUESTION OF ISRAEL. LABATT REQUESTS DEPT. TO SO INFORM AFL-CIO AND ADVISE.

4. HAWKE FURTHER TOLD LABATT THAT HE WAS ADVISED BY ISRAELI AMBASSADOR MOSHE ERELL, THAT GOA HAD BEEN APPROACHED ON A "GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT" BASIS BY PLO FOR PERMISSION TO ESTABLISH AN INFORMATION IN AUSTRALIA. THIS REQUEST WAS TURNED DOWN BY GOA. HOWEVER AT SAME TIME GOA INDICATED THAT IT WOULD NOT BE OPPOSED TO APPLICATION FOR VISITORS VISA FROM DELEGATION OF PLO TO COME TO AUSTRALIA. (SUCH APPLICATION HAS INDEED BEEN MADE UNDER SPONSORSHIP OF WILLIAM HARTLEY, LEADER OF THE SOCIALIST/LEFT FACTION WITHIN THE VICTORIAN STATE ALP, AND BY SEVERAL TRADE UNIONS AND CERTAIN STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS.) AMBASSADOR ERELL FURTHER TOLD HAWKE THAT A DELEGATION OF FOUR MEMBERS OF PLO WILL ARRIVE IN AUSTRALIA AT THE END OF FEBRUARY.

5. ALSO ACCORDING TO ISRAELI AMBASSADOR, GOA HAS INDICATED THEY WILL CLOSELY INVESTIGATE EACH PERSON NOMINATED AS MEMBER OF PLO DELEGATION; TO INSURE THAT THEY WOULD NOT INADVERTENTLY CONFIDENTIAL

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PERMIT ANY PERSON "WITH BLOOD ON HIS HANDS" TO ENTER AUSTRALIA.

6. HAWKE TOLD LABATT ON INFORMATION OBTAINED INDEPENDENTLY OF GOA OR THE ISRAELI AMBASSADOR, HE KNEW THAT HARTLEY, PRIME MOVER IN PROJECT, ORIGINALLY INTENDED TO HAVE PLO IN AUSTRALIA AT TIME OF ALP FEDERAL CONFERENCE STARTING FEBRUARY 3. HOWEVER HAWKE WAS ABLE "TO FRUSTRATE THIS".
BRAND

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Message Attributes

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